

OHIO.

MEMORIAL

OF

CITIZENS OF GUERNSEY COUNTY,

*Against the removal of the Deposites, and in favor of rechartering the
Bank of the United States.*

JUNE 26, 1834.

Read, and ordered to lie on the table.

*To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States
of America in Congress assembled :*

Your memorialists, though composing but a small fraction of the great body of your constituents, would still desire to raise their voice, humble as it is, against what they conceive to be a palpable violation, not only of the public faith, but of the constitution and laws under the due administration of which we have hitherto been a prosperous and happy people. We have not only rumors of dismay and distress in the East, but we actually FEEL its effects in the West. But three or four months ago, our wheat (our principal staple) was selling briskly at from 60 to 70 cents per bushel; now, it would be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to effect a large sale for forty cents. It is undeniable that the removal of the public deposits from one place of perfect security to several places whose claims to the character of security are, to say the least of them, very apocryphal, has destroyed the public confidence, paralyzed the arm of commercial enterprise, blasted, as by a fatal simoon of the desert, the fair hopes of the agriculturist. The greatest incentive to active industry is taken away. The fountain from which our means of exchange flowed has been rashly stopped up, and, by consequence, the stream is dry. Though we are just beginning to taste the bitter fruits of the late measures of the Secretary of the Treasury, it is already with difficulty that we can procure money to answer the common wants of life; and such of us as are so unfortunate as to be in debt can see no reasonable prospect of paying it, for all the ordinary "ways and means" by which we procured money are cut off. Many of our enterprising fellow-citizens who have purchased our produce to sell again, must be seriously injured, if not entirely ruined. It is in the power of your honorable body to relieve us at the present alarming crisis. This

relief, in the opinion of your memorialists, can only be granted by the restoration of the public deposites to the Bank from which they have been injudiciously taken, and the rechartering of the present Bank with modifications, or the creation of a new Bank, which shall include the stock of the present one.

Your memorialists are aware that it has become quite fashionable for individual members of your honorable body to deny that there is any pecuniary distress felt by their constituents. Now, we do not attribute this to any wrong disposition in them, but to the suddenness with which this calamity has overtaken us. With such a startling rapidity have these evils come upon us, that it is almost impossible for men who are not immediately engaged either in agriculture, commerce, or manufactures, to realize them. In proof of this, we can say that when our representative left his district to take his seat in your honorable body, we were apparently a prosperous and happy people. In the language of Mr. McDuffie, the great wave which was raised in the East had not then rolled over us. We are now struggling under its mountain weight, and most earnestly pray for relief. Your suffering fellow-citizens and constituents ask you for that relief which it is in the power of your honorable body to give; and to you, gentlemen, we confidently look, not only for sympathy, but for more substantial relief.